

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SCCT-01 DHA-02 ORM-01 SCS-03

SCA-01 SAM-01 IO-10 /078 R

DRAFTED BY AF:WLVUTLER:EEFUGIT:OSM

APPROVED BY AF:AMB. MULCAHY

EUR/IB:MR. KELLY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL LUANDA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

CINCLANT PRIORITY

CINCEUR PRIORITY

MAC SCOTT AFB PRIORITY

CSAF PRIORITY

JCS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 246356

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGSPFOR, SREF, AO, PO, US

SUBJECT: MPLA ASSERTION OF CONTROL OVER LUANDA'S AIR TRAFFIC

1. THE DEPT HAS RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING FBIS TRANSCRIPT:

"THE GENERAL STAFF OF FAPLA HEREBY REQUESTS THE EMISSORA

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OFFICIAL DE ANGOLA TO GIVE THE WIDEST PUBLICITY TO THE

FOLLOWING COMMUNIQUE:

2. IN THE WAKE OF THE LATEST EVENTS IN LUANDA, CHARACTERIZED BY THE BOMBING OF THE GOVT RADIO STATION AND OTHER PIRACTIC FLIGHTS BY AIRCRAFT OWNED BY THE REACTIONARY FORCES, CONSTITUTING THE OPENING OF ANOTHER BATTLEFRONT, THE FAPLA GENERAL STAFF IS COMPELLED TO ISSUE THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

A. ALL AIRCRAFT TAKEOFFS AND LANDINGS, WITHOUT EXCEPTION, MUST BE COMMUNICATED TO THE FAPLA GENERAL STAFF.

B. ANY AIRCRAFT FLYING OVER THE AIR SPACE OF THE CAPITAL WITHOUT PREVIOUSLY INFORMING THIS GENERAL STAFF WILL BE SHOT DOWN WITHOUT WARNING.

C. THE FAPLA GENERAL STAFF WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY AIRCRAFT THAT MIGHT BE SHOT DOWN.

D. THE PROVISIONS OF THIS COMMUNIQUE ARE APPLICABLE TO ALL CITIES LIBERATED BY THE ANGOLAN PEOPLE FROM THE YOKE OF THE AGENTS OF INTERNATIONAL IMPERIALISM.

LUANDA, 10 OCTOBER 1975. SIGNED COMMANDER CHIETO, FAPLA GENERAL STAFF."

3. WHILE WE HAVE SEEN NO REPORTS OF COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT HAVING BEEN THREATENED OR HARASSED SINCE PUBLICATION OF COMMUNIQUE, MPLA'S ACTION DOES POSE POTENTIAL THREAT TO OUR REFUGEE EVACUATION AIRCRAFT WHICH DEPT BELIEVES SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO ATTENTION OF PORTUGUESE AUTHORITIES. THEREFORE REQUEST EMBASSY LISBON AND CONGEN LUANDA CONVEY TO APPROPRIATE PORTUGUESE AUTHORITIES OUR CONCERN FOR THE SAFETY OF OUR REFUGEE FLIGHTS, OBTAIN THEIR ASSURANCES THAT PORTUGUESE WILL EXERCISE EFFECTIVE SECURITY AT LUANDA AIRPORT AND ITS APPROACHES, AND SEEK THEIR COOPERATION IN PREVENTING THE MPLA FROM ENDANGERING OUR FLIGHTS IN ANY WAY. IN VIEW OF UNACCEPTABLE POLITICAL CONNOTATIONS ATTACHED TO MPLA DEMAND THAT IT CLEAR ALL FLIGHTS, YOU SHOULD MAKE CLEAR TO
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PORTUGUESE WE WILL CONTINUE TO DEAL WITH THEM RATHER THAN MPLA ON THIS ISSUE. FOR SAME REASON, CONGEN LUANDA SHOULD NOT DISCUSS THIS MATTER DIRECTLY WITH MPLA OFFICIALS. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIR TRAFFIC, CIVIL AVIATION, PHYSICAL SECURITY, AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL, AIRSPACE VIOLATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE246356
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WLVTUTLER:EEFUGIT:OSM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750359-0783
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751050/aaaabsf.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <07 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MPLA ASSERTION OF CONTROL OVER LUANDA'S AIR TRAFFIC
TAGS: PFOR, SREF, EAIR, AO, PO, US
To: LISBON LUANDA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006